

"PATENT"

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

In re application of: Angela J. Keeney, et al.
 U. S. Serial No.: 10/678,468
 Filed: October 3, 2003
 For: HIGH VISCOSITY INDEX WIDE-TEMPERATURE
 FUNCTIONAL FLUID COMPOSITIONS AND
 METHODS FOR THEIR MAKING AND USE

) Before the Examiner
) Ellen M. McAvoy
)
) Confirmation Number: 3346
) Group Art Unit: 1764
) Family Number: P2002J112 US2

RECEIVED
 CENTRAL FAX CENTER

AUG 17 2007

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the
 Commissioner for Patents facsimile number 1-571-273-8300 on the date shown below.

Susan Fleming

Signature

August 17, 2007

Date

Type or print name of person signing certification

Transmittal herewith is an amendment/response in the above-identified application.

Petition for extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 and 1.137 is hereby made, if and to the extent, required. The fee for this extension of time is calculated to be \$ _____ to extend the time for filing this response until _____.

The fee for any changes in number of claims has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
(1)	(2) Claims Remaining After Amendment	(3)	(4) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(5) Present Extra	(6) Rate	(7)
Total Claims	*	Minus	**		x 50.00	0
Indep. Claims	*	Minus	***		x 200.00	0
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE					\$ 360.00	0
					FEE FOR CLAIM CHANGES	0

* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.
 ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
 *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The total fee for this Amendment, including claim changes and any extension of time is calculated to be \$ 0.

☒ Charge \$ _____ to DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 05-1330.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 05-1330.

DATE OF SIGNATURE

Post Office Address: [to which correspondence is to be sent]
 ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company
 P. O. Box 900
 Annandale, New Jersey 08801-0900

ATTORNEY OR AGENT OF RECORD

GARY P. KATZ

Registration No. 46,099

☒ Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.34(a)

Facsimile Number: (908) 730-3649



27810

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

"PATENT"

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

AUG 17 2007

In re Application of
Angela J. Keeney, et al.
U. S. Serial No. 10/678,468
Filed: October 3, 2003
HIGH VISCOSITY INDEX WIDE-
TEMPERATURE FUNCTIONAL FLUID
COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR
THEIR MAKING AND USE

) Before the Examiner
) Ellen M. McAvoy
) Confirmation Number: 3346
) Group Art Unit: 1764
)
) Family Number: P2002J112 US2
)
)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 USC 103

All the independent claims have a limitation of a functional fluid comprising a base stock with a pour point of less than -35°C. This is an important limitation that Examiner has missed. The Examiner has stated, "Murphy does disclose in columns 9-10 formulated blends containing the inventive base stocks having viscosity indices ranging from 219 to 233 and pour points ranging from -46°C to -68°C which meet the limitations of the claims." This statement is not correct. The pour points ranging from -46°C to -68°C are for fully formulated blends but the claims are for base stocks with a

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the
Commissioner for Patents facsimile number 1-571-273-8300 on the date shown below.

Susan Fleming
Print name of person signing certification

Susan Fleming
Signature

August 17, 2007
Date



27810

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Serial No. 10/678,468
Reply to Office Action of: June 18, 2007
Family Number: P2002J112 US2

Page 2

pour point less than -35°C . Murphy and all the other references cited do not disclose a base stock with such a low pour point. Table 2 of Murphy shows lubricants formulated as an Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF) with Hitec 434 (Ethyl Corp) wherein applicants are claiming the properties of a base stock with by definition does not include additives. Accordingly Examiner is requested to remove the rejection.

In addition, Examiner admits, "Applicant's invention differs in independent claims 1 and 13 by including property (iii)." Examiner then argues, "Although the premium synthetic lubricants of Murphy are not characterized by such values, the examiner is of the position that the claimed functional fluids may be the same as those disclosed in Murphy since the properties of VI and pour point may be the same, and since the claimed functional fluid may be prepared by the same process."

In the previous rejection, applicant's requested that the Examiner, "state specifically where in the prior art it teaches the claimed combination of specific steps to achieve the claimed properties or remove the rejection." The examiner did not address this request. Applicants have submitted an affidavit showing that unless the specific claimed steps are followed the claimed properties will not be achieved. The affidavit further states the prior art references are not an enabling disclosure. Examiner is picking and choosing various steps in the prior art based on hindsight reasoning with the benefit of applicant's disclosure. Once again, applicants are asking Examiner to state why she is picking each step from references listing many alternative steps and where does the prior art show that using such a combination of steps would result in the desired properties. Applicants are also requesting a statement on how the prior art enables the claimed invention including the claimed properties.

The Examiner's statement that, "Although the premium synthetic lubricants of Murphy are not characterized by such values, the examiner is of the position that the

U.S. Serial No. 10/678,468
Reply to Office Action of: June 18, 2007
Family Number: P2002J112 US2

Page 3

claimed functional fluids may be the same as those disclosed in Murphy since the properties of VI and pour point may be the same, and since the claimed functional fluid may be prepared by the same process" is pure speculation without any supportive evidence. As stated above, her statement is further refuted by the expert affidavit submitted by applicants. Applicants are officially challenging this factual assertion as not properly officially noticed or not properly based upon common knowledge.

MPEP §2144.03(c) States, "If Applicant Challenges a Factual Assertion as Not Properly Officially Noticed or not Properly Based Upon Common Knowledge, the Examiner Must Support the Finding With Adequate Evidence. Applicant's affidavit clearly states the "cited references are not an enabling disclosure" and "The prior art does not disclose the importance of hydrodewaxing with a dewaxing catalyst in combination with the other steps to produce a lubricating oil with the claimed properties." Applicants further supported this with comparative data that demonstrates unless the proper steps are followed in the specification the claimed properties would not be achieved. 37 CFR 1.104(d)(2) requires, "When a rejection in an application is based on facts within the personal knowledge of an employee of the office, the data shall be as specific as possible, and the reference must be supported, when called for by the applicant, by the affidavit of such employee, and such affidavit shall be subject to contradiction or explanations by the affidavits of the applicant and other persons." Accordingly, Applicants are requesting under 37 CFR 1.104(d)(2) an affidavit on how a person skilled in the art would know that following a specific combination of steps would result in a base stock with certain claimed properties that are not disclosed in the prior art without the hindsight benefit of applicant's disclosure.

In addition, the Examiner did not address several dependant claims. These claims include a functional fluid with an additive package without a viscosity index improver (claim 8). Many of the low temperature properties including viscosity index

U.S. Serial No. 10/678,468
Reply to Office Action of: June 18, 2007
Family Number: P2002J112 US2

Page 4

and pour point are achieved without viscosity index improvers. Examiner ignores the fact that many of the cited references are for fully formulated base stocks whereas applicant's claim improved properties from the base stock. In addition, applicants are also claiming various improvements to Brookfield viscosity at -20°F (claims 6 through 12) that were not addressed by the Examiner. The Examiner fails to show where the prior art shows these types of oils and lubricants have the claimed properties. Accordingly, Examiner should remove the rejection or at least remove the final rejection until these limitations are addressed.